

From: Murray, Ed (ATSDR/DTHHS/OD) [mailto:hem0@cdc.gov]

**Sent:** Friday, April 17, 2015 3:32 PM

To: Mosher, Eric

Cc: Kulkarni, Prathit Arun (CDC/OPHSS/CSELS); Escobar, Leah; Vaouli, Elena; Jimenez,

Christopher; Norrell, Neil; Kahn, Paul; Lucarino, Kelli; Breysse, Patrick N.

(CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH); Stephens, James W. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD)

Subject: RE: Sirenusa Condo Methyl Bromide Release, Cruz Bay, St. John

Eric

ATSDR is in agreement with EPA's Superfund Removal/Emergency Response program that the IRIS verified RfC (5ug/m3<sup>-1</sup> or 1.3 ppb) is protective of health effects from long-term exposure and it is analytically and operationally achievable once adequate ventilation is completed at the Sirenusa Condo, St. John USVI. ATSDR requests that the EPA take all reasonable or practical measures to achieve a re-entry concentration as low as possible but no higher than the RfC of 1.3 ppb.

Thank you

Ed

H. Edward Murray, Ph.D., Captain, USPHS Acting Director Division of Toxicology and Human Health Sciences Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry 1600 Clifton Road, N.E. - Mailstop F- 57 Atlanta, GA 30333 (770) 488-3317 From: Mosher, Eric [mailto:Mosher.Eric@epa.gov]

**Sent:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 2:30 PM **To:** Murray, Ed (ATSDR/DTHHS/OD)

Cc: Kulkarni, Prathit Arun (CDC/OPHSS/CSELS); Escobar, Leah T. (EPA) (CDC epa.gov); Vaouli, Elena (CDC epa.gov); Jimenez, Christopher; Norrell, Neil; Kahn, Paul;

Lucarino, Kelli

Subject: Sirenusa Condo Methyl Bromide Release, Cruz Bay, St. John

Ed.

It was good to talk with you this morning.

I am requesting that ATSDR provide EPA a clearance number in writing by the end of this week. The EPA Superfund Removal/Emergency Response program agrees that the IRIS verified RfC (5ug/m3<sup>-1</sup> or 1.3 ppb) is protective of health effects from long-term exposure and it is analytically and operationally achievable once adequate ventilation is completed.

We are still in the emergency response phase of our operations on site the Sirenusa property and we are at a stage where clearance of both apartments is important to accomplish. We are currently removing porous materials from each apartment and performing our ventilation activities in preparation of our final round of sampling. It is extremely important and mission critical that we have a clearance number available to us by the end of the week. It is important to EPA and the USVI agencies (DOH and DPNR) that this information is available to discuss our final end state and to assist in making the clearance determinations.

As the investigation continues there are indications of improper use of MB possibly in St. Croix and Puerto Rico. Our emergency responders need to be at the ready to address any environmental issues that might affect the public's health. As the investigation unfolds it is necessary to have clearance information in hand now so we can address the results of any future sampling that might occur at a new location. Any help that you can provide to

further this issue to a resolution and provide the needed information would be appreciated.

I also want to thank you and your agency for all the folks that have deployed on this incident and the people that are continuing to work the issues back in the office. They all have done an excellent job and have helped us and the USVI agencies address the health concerns. Leah and her staff and the Epi-Team have been outstanding and very responsive. This has been a positive response for people who felt they may have been impacted. They have been quickly contacted by the government and were able to efficiently share their issues and receive feedback.

Thanks much,

Eric

Chief, Response and Prevention Branch

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 2

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